

Comments submitted by Interested Persons

- **Roger Collins, Birch Point Campers Association**

Clukey, Robin

From: Mrcollin@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2007 9:27 AM
To: Clukey, Robin
Cc: Logue, Edward; nick.archer@maine.gov
Subject: Permit Application
Attachments: Boatlanding april07.pdf; Ramp turning radius.pdf

TO: Robin Clukey

Maine DEP
Eastern Regional Office
106 Hogan Rd.
Bangor, ME 04401

RE: Richard Cayer NRPA Permit Application

FROM: Birch Point Campers Association

Dear Robin:

The Birch Point Campers Association, a duly registered non profit organization in the state of Maine, hereby submit our objections regarding Mr. Cayer's application for a boat launching facility at Birch Point. Our concerns are based on environmental issues, pedestrian safety, ingress and egress considerations, violation of camp owners vested property rights, negative impact on property valuations, lowering the quality of life for proximity owners and the applicant's blatant disregard of providing verifiable design information, reliable dimensions and unsubstantiated environmental impact assumptions in the permit application process.

This is such a delicately sensitive environmental project that due diligence is needed to insure that integrity is maintained. Long Lake is a viable resource, however, in our opinion, there is a serious disregard for the environmental sensitivity of the area in the applicant's permit submission. Mr. Cayer has failed to substantiate his design assumptions, has not shown that his site plan dimensions are professionally verifiable and has failed to substantiate the feasibility of his hand sketched design as a viable and workable solution.

The applicant does not indicate how much regulated wetland would be impacted by launching boats of the size mentioned. A cross section should be provided to illustrate just how far a "rig" (boat trailer and towing vehicle) must traverse the wetland to float the boat. Instead; the subject is deceptively avoided by claiming that the ramp will stop 3 feet short of the high water mark.

Attachments A, B, C, D are engineered drawings illustrating the design shortcoming of the applicant's submission and the resultant implications. There appears to be a misrepresentation concerning the amount of soil to be removed due to the application using inaccurate bank height data. The actual

drive without considerable "jockeying" This inevitably will obstruct vehicular travel in the right-of-way and create a pedestrian safety hazard. Please refer to the attachment that depicts how severely constrained the turning radius will be in entering and exiting the launch site.

The application states that this is a water dependent boat ramp. That is a broad assumption that nonetheless deserves to be better defined. The ramp, as designed, would be basically unusable during most of the boating season for lack of adequate water depths. Mr. Cayer failed to demonstrate and document how boats could be launched and retrieved without directly impacting the regulated wetland (shore line gravel and lake bottom).

There are existing boat landing sites on Long Lake that currently meet the need of users. The Maine Department of Wildlife and Inland Fisheries had at one time studied the Cayer site for launching but rejected it because of the size of the lot and more importantly as unsafe due to the strong predominant winds in that particular area.

The applicant reasons that the need for the launching ramp is a progression of the times (boats are bigger). Why would someone seriously consider building a water dependent boat ramp for today's large boats off a 22 foot right-of-way, into a 15 foot driveway with no turn around, on a dead end road, without on site parking, no public rest rooms, no direct access to potable water and want to locate this facility amongst the most densely populated area of Long Lake?

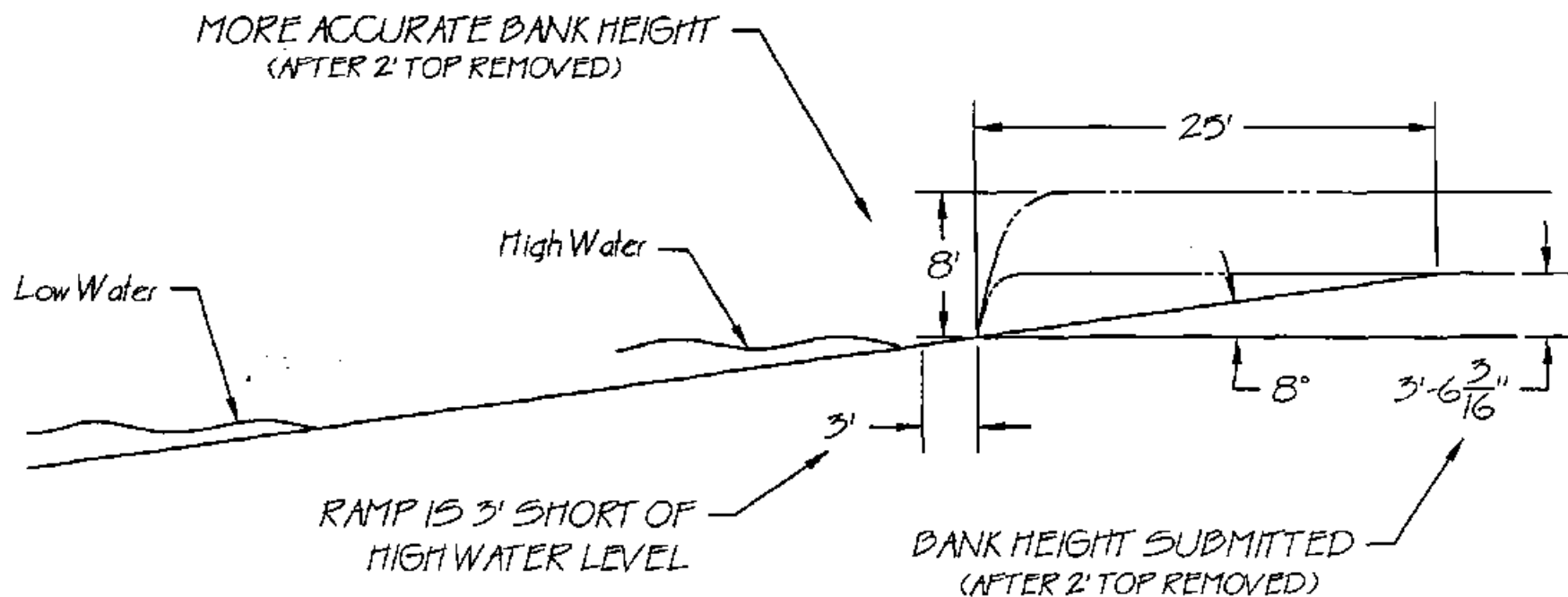
It is our sincere hope that the objections brought forth in this document would encourage the Maine Department Of Environmental Protection to emphatically reject the permit for a permanent boat landing at Birch Point. The issues are too critical for the permit to be granted on such anecdotal support. In our opinion, it appears that Mr. Cayer's application deceptively lacks the data to adequately to sustain his concept as being environmentally sound and functional.

Sincerely,

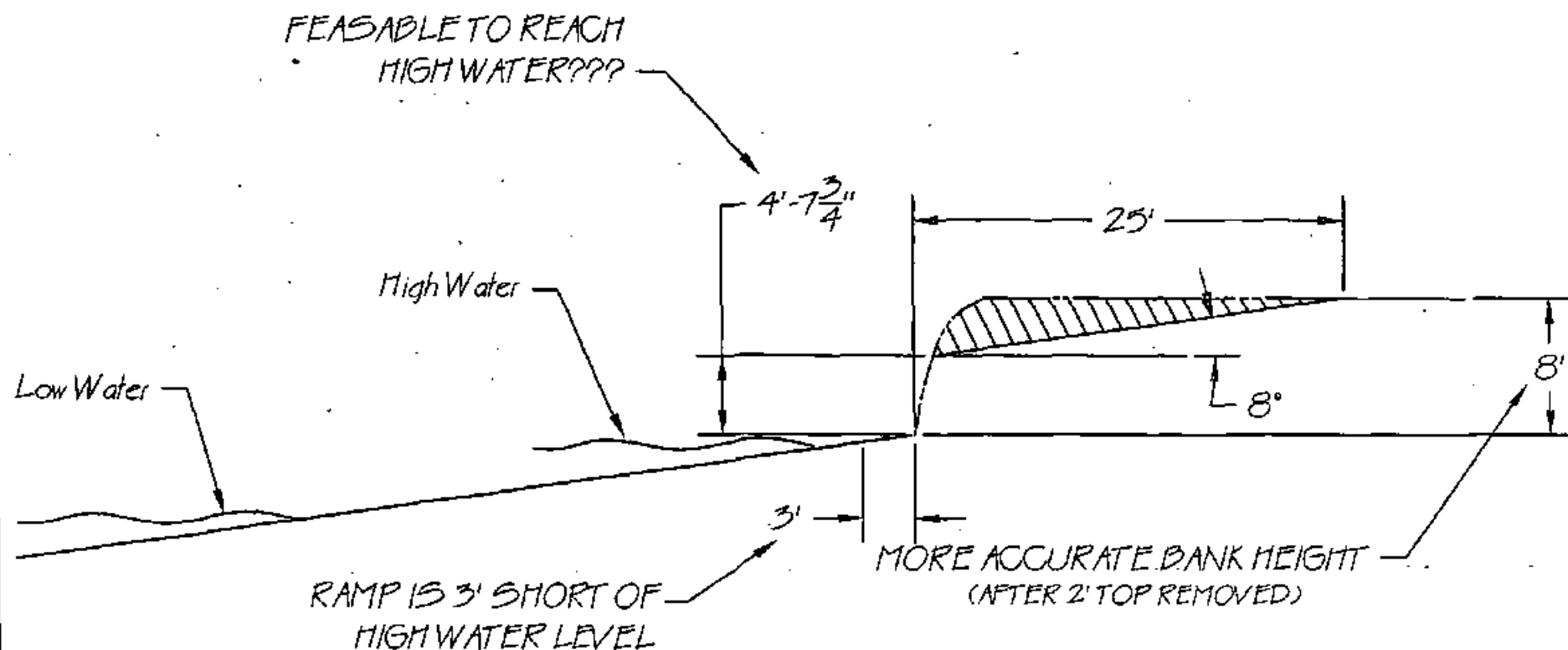
Roger Collin, President
Birch Point Campers Association

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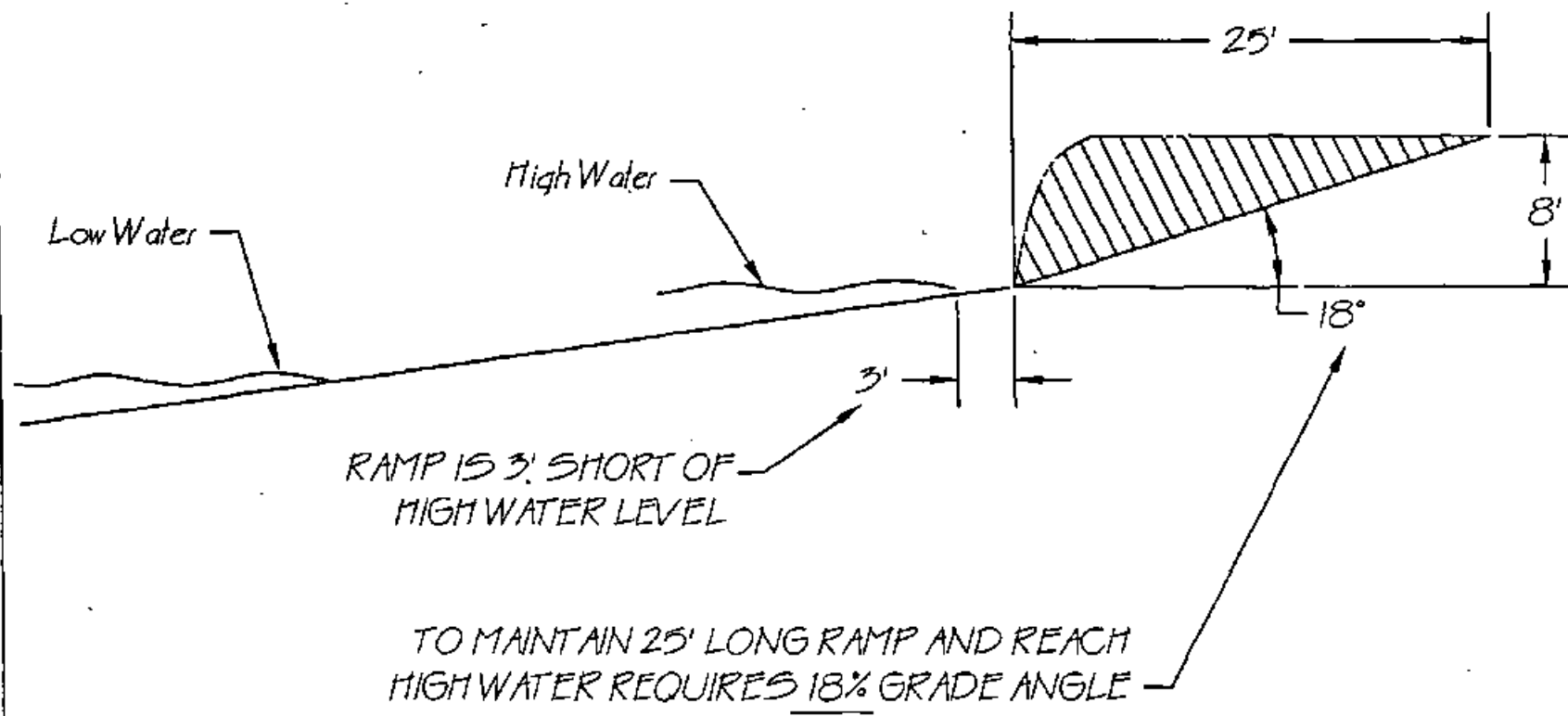
ERROR IN ORIGINAL PROPOSAL - BANK HEIGHT
ESTIMATED TOO LOW



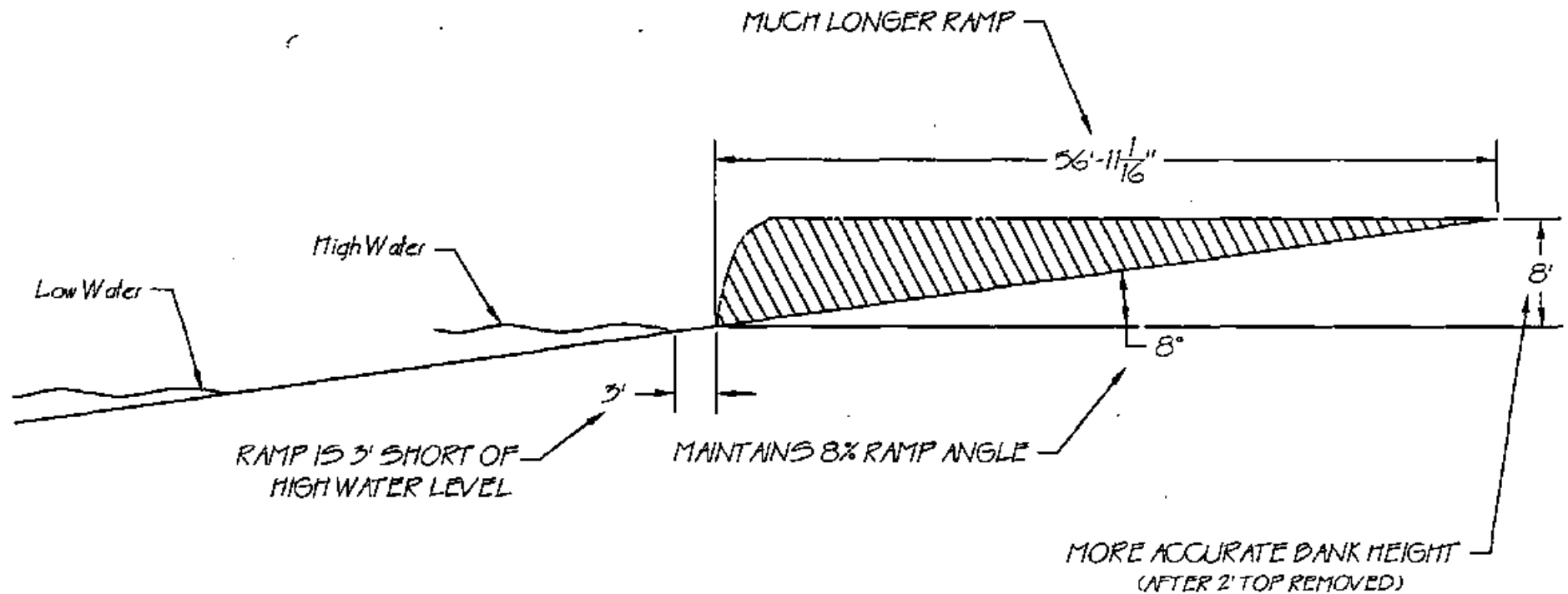
25' LONG RAMP W/8% GRADE DOES NOT REACH HIGH WATER LEVEL

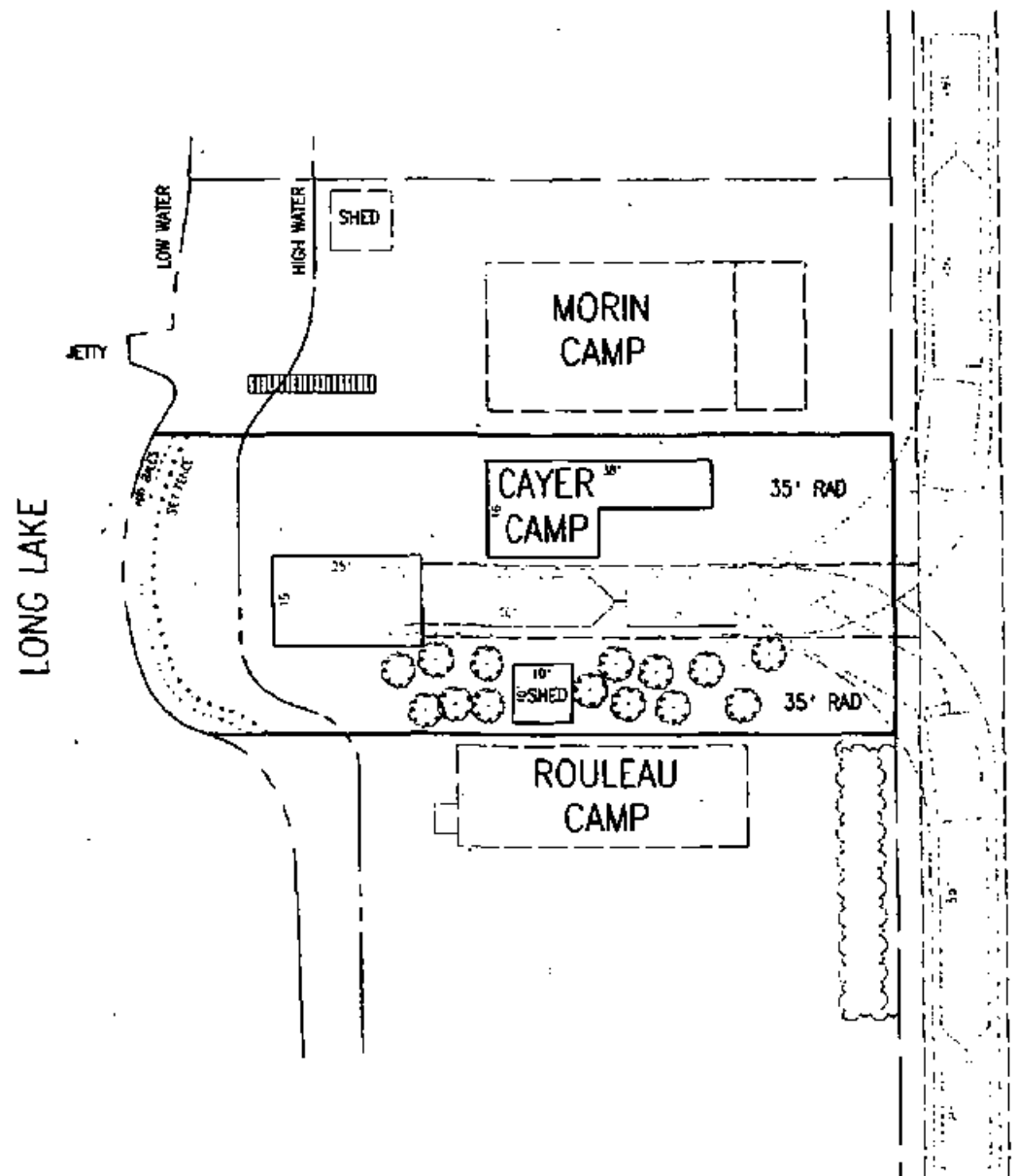


TO MAINTAIN 25' LONG RAMP REQUIRES 18% GRADE



TO MAINTAIN 8% GRADE REQUIRES LONGER RAMP





SCALE 1" = 20'

REQUIRED TURNING RADIUS BASED
ON ENGINEERING STANDARDS

NOTE: TURNING RADIUS ON
APPLICATION NOT FUNCTIONAL